

for a six month absence, only to be notified later that their deployment will be extended for a full year.

There are similar stresses on career military personnel that are required to serve extended deployments of 12 months on active duty. While 6 months may be more manageable for a family to make temporary arrangements regarding covering day care and usual family responsibilities, deployments of 12 months require a more permanent solution. At a minimum, the normal family life is disrupted. Parents are forced to be away from their children for prolonged periods of time, and the parent that is left behind must fill the role of both parents. As a result, additional social services, or additional day care services, are often needed—at additional financial expense.

This bill would increase individual pay by \$1000 per month for active duty military, Reservists, and National Guard members who are deployed away from home for more than 6 months. The increase would apply to each month of active duty in excess of 6 months.

Many of these individuals and their families will be suffering hardship well in excess of \$1000 per month. The least we can do is attempt to offset the financial hardship imposed on these families. If one third of 150,000 troops in Iraq are eligible for extended deployment pay in any month; the cost would be \$50 million a month or \$600 million per year. This amounts to less than one-half of one percent of the total cost of the war to date.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this effort to aid the military men and women who are honorably serving our country.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, each February our Nation celebrates Black History Month. African-Americans have a rich and deep history, and many individuals should be recognized. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision of Brown versus the Board of Education, and it is my pleasure to speak about a very special woman who blazed a trail in completing her education.

While the Supreme Court decision allowed for equal access and opportunity to education for African-Americans, long before this decision was handed down, Mary Eliza Mahoney, was the first African-American registered nurse, graduating from the New England Hospital for Women and Children Training School for Nurses in 1879.

Mary Eliza Mahoney was born in Dorchester, Massachusetts in 1845. At the age of 33, Ms. Mahoney was admitted as a student into the hospital's nursing program, which had been established by Dr. Marie Zakrewska, notably, one of the first women doctors in the United States.

Ms. Mahoney completed a strenuous and rigorous 16-month program, becoming one of only three people to actually complete the program.

In 1896, Mr. Speaker, Ms. Mahoney became one of the first African-American mem-

bers of the American Nurses Association (ANA). In 1908, she co-founded the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, an organization working toward complete integration of Black Nurses in the ANA. Additionally, Mahoney participated in the campaign for woman suffrage and in 1921, was one of the first women in line to vote after the ratification of the nineteenth amendment.

Ms. Mahoney spent her life caring for the sick until her death on January 4, 1926. In 1993, Ms. Mahoney was inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame.

The indomitable courage of this African-American woman has set an example for equality, dignity and respect for African-Americans in nursing, as well as women's rights. I urge all of my colleagues to reflect on all the great African-American individuals who helped shape this great Nation during Black History Month.

MOURNING THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF PRESIDENT BORIS TRAJKOVSKI OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to mourn the untimely death of President Boris Trajkovski of the Republic of Macedonia. As many of my colleagues have heard, President Trajkovski was killed this morning in a plane crash while traveling to Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Mr. Trajkovski was born in Strumica, Macedonia on June 25, 1956. He graduated with a degree in law from the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in 1980. He was an ordained Methodist minister and President of the Church Council of the United Methodist Church.

In 1998, he was appointed to the post of Deputy-Minister of Foreign Affairs. During his time as Deputy-Minister, he predicted the rise of ethnic tensions in Macedonia due to the crisis in Kosovo. He was right to criticize NATO's lack of help in that crisis. During much of the fighting in the Balkans, Macedonia allowed NATO to use Macedonian territory. During Macedonia's ethnic crisis, NATO was sorely lacking in assistance.

In 1999 he was inaugurated as President of the Republic of Macedonia. During his term as president, he faced near-civil war in his country. Ethnic divisions threatened to tear his country apart. President Trajkovski, however, worked with all ethnic groups to forge a solution. Despite criticism that he was too lenient on minority groups, he pressed for peace and facilitated a peace deal.

In addition to forging peace in his country, Mr. Trajkovski worked to improve Macedonia's standing on the world stage. Under his leadership, Macedonia was one of the first countries to publicly support Operation Iraqi Freedom and to commit troops to the effort. Mr. Trajkovski was a tireless advocate for religious tolerance, religious freedom, and conflict resolution.

Mr. Trajkovski's work also focused on improving the lives of all Macedonians. A strong believer in free markets and the importance of

international economic co-operation, Mr. Trajkovski died while on his way to an international investors meeting that would undoubtedly have helped the development and future prosperity of Macedonia.

The death of President Trajkovski is a tragedy. Macedonia has lost a true leader. The international community has lost a strong voice for peace and co-operation. On the passing of President Trajkovski, Kerri Houston, Vice President of Policy for Frontiers of Freedom noted, "President Trajkovski was a courageous leader who sought security, economic progress, and a common national identity for the Macedonian people." A truer statement was never uttered.

Mr. Trajkovski leaves behind a wife, Vilma, and two children Sara and Stefan. I offer my sympathies to his family and the families of the other victims of this terrible accident.

RECOGNITION OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY'S BIRTHDAY

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, Susan B. Anthony campaigned endlessly for women's rights to equality and freedom. Her protecting legacy has taught many American women how to fight injustice, and this lesson includes the unborn. For Anthony, the rights of women and the rights of unborn children are the same.

Susan B. Anthony is best known for her leading role in the women's suffrage movement, but few realize that she was also a strong pro-life activist. February marks the 184th year following her birth, and there could hardly be a more fitting commemoration than the passage of the Unborn Victims of Violence Act. This Act would hold individuals accountable for harming a life when, in the act of committing a federal crime, an unborn child is killed or injured. Murder must not go unrecognized and unpunished. The law should recognize two victims and two distinct tragedies.

After a brutal beating, a New York mother delivered two stillborn twins. The law saw one assault victim, but was blind to the two lives lost. This horrible crime and numerous others are going unpunished; Congress must act to stop this injustice.

The key to understanding abortion lies in the recognition of a human life wherever it exists. We must follow Susan B. Anthony's example and recognize the lives of unborn children. I encourage all Members of Congress to support our unborn children and pass the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA BORIS TRAJKOVSKI

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences upon hearing the news of the death of Boris Trajkovski,